

TRIPLE MURDER

(Continued from Page 1)

fired and this was the shot which killed Morgan. The entire load of shot struck him in the left side of the throat and ranged downward, severing the jugular vein and causing almost instant death. Judging from the looks of the table and the position of his body, he had probably fallen with his face on the table on being shot and later had attempted to push his chair back and rise and had fallen backwards on the floor.

It is the general opinion that whoever committed the murder had at first only intended to kill Morgan, and after completing this deed had started to leave the premises, going southeast toward the road, and after getting some distance from the house had fired several shots in that direction in order to intimidate Miss McQuillen and McGugin and keep them from pursuing him or going for help, but that after he had gone some little distance from the house, McGugin had left and started toward the barn with the idea in view, probably, of getting a horse and starting for help, and that the murderer, then fearing detection, had returned and had again fired at the hired man at closer quarters, wounding him in the back when he was about half way between the house and the barn and getting still closer, again shot at short range. When the last shot was fired the gun must have been almost at McGugin's head, and the indications are that he had his right arm up to ward off the shot, for the shirt and arm were badly powder burned, and his head was blown almost completely off, and the brains and pieces of skull were scattered in the grass where he fell, close by the corral gate, for a distance of several feet.

During the time which intervened between the time Morgan was shot and this time, Miss McQuillen had secured a pan of water and a cloth and, kneeling on the floor beside Morgan, was engaged in washing his face when the murderer returned to the house. In the meantime she had probably shut the door and had fastened it with a chair, as it was in this position when discovered by the officers, and bloody finger marks on the door indicate that it must have been closed by the woman after she had been working with Morgan. The murderer again came to the window, and placing the muzzle of the gun on the bottom sill, fired at Miss McQuillen, the load of shot striking her in the right side of the face and tearing over half the side of her face and head away. Afterwards, from all indications, the man had torn away the window screen from the bottom and south side and going into the house had partially ransacked the place. When the bodies were discovered Morgan's pocketbook was lying on the floor beside him, open and with the money gone, and one of the bureau drawers where he had kept some papers also showed signs of being hurriedly ransacked, but all indications point to the fact that robbery itself was not the real motive for the crime, and although the officers have been working on the case assiduously since the discovery, not a single clue has so far been found.

Morgan and his wife separated about five years ago and since this time Miss McQuillen, a sister of his wife, has lived with him as housekeeper. He was a big farmer, owning a farm in Ford county, and farming several hundred acres northeast of Heizer where he lived. His mode of life was anything but a moral one, and much of his time and most of his money was spent with women and in fast company. He was exceedingly quick tempered and on this account often had trouble with his companions. In a business way he was absolutely square and while he made plenty of money but was generally heavy in debt, he always paid his bills as promptly as his circumstances would permit. About two weeks ago he had sold his wheat crop at \$1.01 per bushel and his check for something over \$4,000 had been expected in from the milling company the Wednesday he was in town, but had failed to arrive. He was a man who, when he did have money, carried large sums on his person, and the fact that he was expecting this large amount on Wednesday might have tempted someone who knew of his habits of carrying money to follow him to his home that evening and commit the crime, but this theory is accepted by but few. The chances are that instead of being a robber, the murderer or murderers were persons with whom he had difficulty in some way on

manner of life.

Another thing which disproves the robber theory is the fact that two diamond rings belonging to Miss McQuillen and a number of other pieces of jewelry, valued at several hundred dollars, and other articles of value in the house, were not disturbed. There seems to be little question that whoever committed the crime went there with the intention of killing Morgan, and the two others paid the penalty with their lives on the theory that "dead men tell no tales."

From the fact that a number of empty shot gun shells, such as were found around the house, were also found southwest of the house near a feed rack, and that some of the shot marks on the south porch and on the bunk house where the hired man slept, north of the main house about one hundred and fifty yards, indicated that some shots had been fired from a southwesterly direction, there are some who hold the opinion that more than one person was mixed up in the deal, but this is entirely problematical. The shells were 12-gauge, and of a cheap variety handled by but few stores. One loaded shell was also found a few feet southeast of the house. Evidently, from the way the shells were scattered, a pump gun had been used.

The murders had evidently been committed shortly after dark Wednesday evening, as that evening, about that time, some of the members of a threshing crew about a mile and a half away, had heard a number of shots but had paid no attention to them. There was nothing about the premises to indicate whether the person who committed the crime had been hid about the premises when Morgan and the woman returned from town or whether he had come on the place after dusk, and in fact, there is nothing outside of the used shells upon which the officers can hope to base a clue.

There is one fact which seems to stand out clearly, however, and that is that whoever the person or persons were who committed the crime, they were people who were seemingly acquainted with the place and also with Morgan. They evidently knew that he was a man of quick tongue, and quick action, and a man absolutely devoid of fear, for they took no chances on giving him an opportunity of retaliating or of defending his life. If the motive was robbery, whoever did the deed was poorly paid for his work for Morgan was very short of money just at that time and while in town Wednesday had borrowed money to pay for the load of oats and had also borrowed a couple of dollars for spending money. If it was for a personal grudge or was the work of a moral fanatic who did not approve of Morgan's style of living it was a poor system of attempting to take the law into his own hands or to try and meet out justice and in so doing to take the life of an innocent young man who was in no wise responsible and probably did not even know of the acts of his employer.

The young man, McGugin, was only about eighteen years of age and had been working at the Morgan farm but three days. He was the youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles McGugin, of Enid, Okla., and besides his parents, leaves to mourn his sad death four brothers and one sister. The relatives were immediately notified of his death and the brothers and a brother-in-law hurried here at once. He was the baby of the family, and his brothers stated that his parents had been very loath to see him leave home, but that he had wanted to get out and work for himself for a time and they had finally consented. He was a member of the Catholic church, and from all reports was a moral, upright young man. Burial of the remains was made in the cemetery here Saturday afternoon. The funeral of Lee Morgan was held from the Cox undertaking rooms Sunday morning at 9 o'clock, and that of Miss McQuillen from the M. E. church Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock.

Morgan was a son of W. W. Morgan, one of the old timers here, and for many years engaged in the poultry business in this city. His mother and two sisters, Mrs. Charley Miller and Mrs. Blackler, live in California, and were immediately notified of his death, but on account of the distance did not attempt to come on for the funeral. Morgan's divorced wife, Mrs. Lena Morgan, who has been making her home on her farm near Dodge City, was visiting in Ohio at the time, and on receipt of the news of the death of her husband and sister, left at once for this place, arriving Monday morning. Her father, J. E.

McQuillen, and sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Harts-horn, all of Ford county, came down Saturday morning.

On advice received from Morgan's mother in California, the probate court appointed W. E. Stoke to take charge of the estate and look after the property interests. The land which Morgan was farming belonged to Frank Mer-ten and John Reinecke, Jr., but the improvements belonged to Morgan. He had eight head of good work mules on the place, a number of horses and a large amount of farming machinery, harness, etc., besides a few hundred bushels of wheat which he had saved for seed. At the time of his death he had several hundred acres of ground all in shape for wheat and had intended to start drilling in a few days.

Although a strict search had been made by the officers and later by the administrator of the estate, none of Mr. Morgan's business papers, if he ever kept any, have been found. It was rumored that he carried an insurance policy for several thousand dollars in an old line company, but if such is the case the policy cannot be found. He at one time carried a policy for two thousand dollars in the M. W. A. but dropped this some years ago.

The crime was one of the most fiendish and cowardly ever perpetrated in this county and the people are aroused to a high degree of excitement and nothing is going to be left undone to try and discover the murderer. The county has offered a reward of \$500 and the state three hundred for the conviction of the slayer and a strict search will be kept up until something develops or all hope is lost of ever catching the guilty parties. The sheriff and county attorney have been doing all in their power, but there is very little ground on which they can work and the fact that the crime was committed two days before the bodies were found makes their work just that much harder, but at that some progress is being made in the case and the officers feel that they have some slight clues which may ultimately lead to the apprehension of the guilty parties, and it is surely to be hoped that this is the case. Barton county cannot afford to have such a crime committed without the guilty ones being apprehended and punished.

TAKES IN PARTNER.

Frank Kern, Jr., who has been owner of the general store at Dundee for several months past, has sold a half interest in the business to Frank Meade, of this city, and the business will henceforth be conducted under the firm name of Kern & Meade. Since taking charge of the store some months ago Mr. Kern has built up a most excellent business so that three people are kept busy in the store about all the time. Mr. Meade is an excellent young business man and the firm will undoubtedly prove to be a strong one and will do a nice business. They are greatly enlarging their stock and in a short time will have one of the best general stocks of merchandise to be found in this part of the country, and will thus be enabled to greatly extend their trade territory. They are honest energetic young men who are giving the people of the Dundee vicinity the best store they have ever had and they are entitled to their patronage.

We guarantee our Rubber Goods for two years. Hooper Drug Co.

DEMOCRATIC MEETINGS.

The Democratic county candidates will hold meetings as follows, next week:

On Monday evening, September 21st, a big meeting will be held in Hoisington, in the evening. Hon. John E. Wagner, of Larned, candidate for Lieutenant Governor, will make the address of the evening.

On Tuesday evening, the 22nd, township, at School District No. a meeting will be held in Albion 56.

Wednesday evening, the 23rd, in Eureka township, at School District No. 77.

Thursday evening, in Buffalo township, at School District No. 28.

Friday evening, in Clarence township, at School District No. 40.

A number of meetings have been held by the candidates this week in the northeast part of the county and all have been well attended and much interest shown.

We have sold three Pianos at our Saturday Auctions and the proud owners are well pleased with their bargains. The Retail Store.

NEW PHYSICIAN.

Dr. Clark Zugg, M. D., of Cincinnati, has moved to this city for the practice of his profession and has opened up offices at 1221½ Main street, over the Hunt Department store. Dr. Zugg is a graduate of the University of Illinois and in addition to the general practice of medicine and surgery in his home city, has for some time been connected with the General Hospital at Kansas City, Mo. He comes to Great Bend very highly recommended, is a very pleasant gentleman and will no doubt build up a nice practice.

FOR RENT—Improved Farm; 70 acres of corn to sow in wheat. —1009 South Main Street.

THE ORPHAN CHILDREN.

There was a big crowd of men and women at the court house Saturday afternoon to see and make arrangements for the taking of the fifteen orphan children who were brought here from the New York Orphans' Home in charge of Miss Hill. There were enough people at the court house wanting children to take twice as many as the number brought here, but on account of the very strict regulations regarding the homes in which these children must be placed Miss Hill has not yet found a home for some of the children, but some of them have been placed in the best homes of the county, and will probably be ultimately legally adopted by the parties taking them. No adoption can legally be made for at least eighteen months, and during that time the children are kept track of by the society, and if at any time they feel that they are not receiving the proper treatment in every way, they will be taken away and placed in other homes. The children brought here were very bright, intelligent appearing youngsters and well behaved in every way, and the most of them will undoubtedly grow into good, useful men and women.

If you are looking for a separator, you cannot make a mistake by going to WILCOX'S, and buying the Bluebell Separator. It is easy to clean, gets all the butter fat and easy to operate. You will find them at WILCOX'S.

Manual Training Sets, at Hooper's

AUTO FOR SALE.

Good touring car, in fine shape. full equipment. Will sell cheap. See Cal Ewalt, at E. R. Moses Implement Store.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Pryor and baby were here from Hutchinson last week for a visit with Mrs. Pryor's father, Walter Cornell, and with Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Cole, and their many other Great Bend friends.

Robert Campbell, who has been farming on the Sawlog, northeast of Dodge City for the past few years, came down the latter part of the week to attend to some business matters and for a short visit with relatives and friends.

Doc Briggs, for many years proprietor of the Briggs hotel in this city, was here the first of the week for a visit of a few days with friends while on his way home to Muskogee, Okla., after a business trip to Kinsley where he was looking after the threshing of his wheat crop.

Oscar Johnson came up from Wichita the first of the week and made arrangements to move his family from Great Bend to that city where they will make their future home. Mr. Johnson has a good position with the Port Huron Threshing Machine Co., and makes his headquarters in that city. The Johnson family have been residents of this city for the past twelve years or more and their many friends will regret their moving elsewhere.

Claude Kelly and family arrived in this city the first of the week for a visit with relatives and friends after a trip of about eight thousand miles through different parts of the United States and Canada. Claude was engaged in farming up in Beaver township for a number of years, but sold out this spring and decided that he would locate elsewhere. He has traveled over a whole lot of country since that time but has failed to find a place that looked better to him than old Barton county and may decide to locate here again.

Will Hayes has been pretty badly crippled up for the past few days with a severe attack of lumbago. He was confined to his home for a few days but is able to be around town a little now.

Joseph Axman was down from the Olmitz neighborhood Wednesday on a business trip and for a visit with his Great Bend friends.

MEN'S DRESS SHOES
\$2.50, \$3.00, \$3.50 to \$5.00
KRAUSE'S

W. G. Merritt & Son will sell at public sale next Tuesday the best herd of dairy cattle ever offered in Kansas. Don't fail to attend this big sale.

Mr. and Mrs. F. S. Spruill have issued invitations to the marriage of their daughter, Margarette, to Mr. Dan Worth Banta, which will take place at their home in this city at 8 o'clock, on Wednesday evening, September 30th.

J. A. Curry, of north of town, has commenced the erection of a fine new house on his place. The building will be two stories, 28 feet square, with basement, roomy porches, and will be modern in every way and one of the fine farm homes of the county. L. F. Likes has the contract for the building.

Charley Brinkman has joined the ranks of the auto owners, having purchased a fine new Maxwell from Agent Pritchard this week.

Mrs. Arthur Weiss and little son are here from Warren, Ark., for a visit with Mrs. Albert Weiss and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lischensky. Mr. Weiss has been engaged in the jewelry business in Warren for several years and has built up an excellent trade and is getting along nicely.

Ed Klein, a former Great Bend boy, son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Klein, was here this week for a visit with Sam Kellam and other old time friends while on his way to his home in Oklahoma City after a business trip to Cimarron. Ed is in the wholesale oil business now and is getting along fine and says that business has been pretty good in his line, even tho' it has been affected considerably by the war. They have been having short crops down in that vicinity for several years, but this year have a fine crop of cotton, but as the price has dropped from about fifteen cents to six cents per pound since the war started, it is not doing the growers a great deal of good at the present time, but the chances are that the price will come up again as soon as the war is settled.

MEN'S WORK SHOES
\$2.50 and \$3.00 a pair
KRAUSE'S

New Line ..BOYS' SCHOOL SUITS..

SPECIALLY BOUGHT

Prices Under Market Price

MEN'S SUITS

Some New Things just in, Hart, Schaffner & Marx and

Kirschbaum makes

\$10.00 up to \$22.50

NEW BALMACAAN COATS

\$12.50 to \$20.00

NEW STYLES RALSTON AND DOUGLAS SHOES

Buy reliable brands like above, PRICED RIGHT

at

THOMPSON & SON..